



Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning

Legislative Building, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0V8 CANADA

To: Directors/Owners/Operators of Licenced
Early Learning and Child Care Facilities
Board of Directors of Licenced Early Learning
and Child Care Centres
Superintendents of School Divisions
Principals of Funded Independent
School Directors of First Nations Education Authorities

Dear Colleagues:

In acknowledgment of the crucial role Early Childhood Educators play in Manitoba's licensed early learning and child care centers, nursery schools, and family child care homes, I am delighted to proclaim the week of April 28 to May 4, 2024, as the 33rd annual Week of the Early Childhood Educator.

This week celebrates Manitoba's Early Childhood Educators for their ongoing dedication to the care and education of Manitoba's youngest learners. Educators working in the early learning and child care sector deliver services and supports to Manitoba families that provide children with a strong start in the early years, resulting in positive outcomes for families, communities and the province as a whole.

Extensive education in brain architecture and child development prepares Early Childhood Educators to provide child-focused, play-based, inclusive and emergent curriculum, which nurtures healthy child development and supports each child's individual learning journey. Through play-based learning, children develop primary social skills, language expression, curiosity, and a willingness to try new activities; attributes we know to be essential for success in school.

Moreover, Early Childhood Educators prepare engaging, quality early learning environments that are safe and respect each child's interests, abilities, and needs. In quality early learning environments children see themselves, their families and their community reflected. By providing quality indoor and outdoor environments, Early Childhood Educators promote children's positive self-identity and help them to accept and respect the similarities and differences around them.

Furthermore, Early Childhood Educators build meaningful connections with the children and their families. These collaborative relationships play a critical role in the educator's ability to ensure a supportive and enriching environment where children's learning is enhanced, and needs are met. Learning and care are inseparable.

Please join me in celebrating the annual Week of the Early Childhood Educator by finding opportunities to recognize the invaluable role that Early Childhood Educators play in shaping Manitoba's youngest citizens.

On behalf of the Manitoba government, I extend my profound appreciation to all Early Childhood Educators. Thank you for your ongoing dedication to Manitoba's children.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Nello Altomare
Minister
Education and
Early Childhood Learning

c. Manitoba Child Care Association